

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01
PA-01 SY-05 MCT-01 /030 W
-----019899 121401Z /46
R 121244Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO USIA WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9737

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E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: WEST GERMAN UNIVERSITY SCENE (III)

REF: BONN (A) 10796, (B) 22003, (C) FM 18

1. SUMMARY: WHILE THERE ARE NO SPECIFIC INDICATORS THAT CAMPUS VIOLENCE WILL OCCUR THIS SUMMER, GERMAN FEARS ABOUT CATASTROPHE IN THE UNIVERSITIES CONTINUE TO BE PUBLICLY AIRED. A LONG TV DOCUMENTARY CONCLUDED THAT IF IT DOES NOT COME DURING THE SUMMER, THERE WILL BE A HOT AUTUMN IN ACADEME. OUR CONCLUSION IS IT IS NOT LIKELY THAT VIOLENCE WILL ERUPT THIS SUMMER. END SUMMARY.

2. THE CRYING OF ALARM WHICH WAS STARTED BY THE REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE FUTURE OF THE UNIVERSITY (REFTEL A.) CONTINUES, ALONG WITH CONCERN ABOUT "POPULAR FRONT" APPROACHES. THE CURRENT CLEANSING ACTION OF THE SPD IN FORCING A GROWING NUMBER OF JUSOS OUT OF THE PARTY IS NOT UNRELATED.

3. A LONG THOROUGH AND BALANCED TV DOCUMENTARY ON THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUBJECT SURVEYED THE ONGOING DEBATE AND REPORTED INSTANCES WHERE ALLEGEDLY LEFT EXTREMISTS ACTED TOGETHER WITH FAR LEFT UNIVERSITY STAFFS TO ELECT PROFESSORS WITH SIMILAR IDEOLOGY. IT ACCURATELY POINTED OUT DISCONTENT AND FEAR EVEN AMONG THE MODERATE STUDENTS, WHO CONSTITUTE THE MAJORITY, ABOUT JOB PROSPECTS. IN FACT, ONE THIRD OF THE FRG'S UNEMPLOYED ARE UNDER 25.

THERE IS GROWING RESENTMENT ABOUT THE STUDENT GRANTS (REF.C.) AND "NUMERUS CLAUSUS." LATTER SETS NUMERICAL LIMITS ON POPULAR SUBJECTS, FORCING MANY STUDENTS INTO OTHERS CONSIDERED LESS DESIRABLE. ACTUALLY, THE FRG FACES A GLUT OF SOCIAL SCIENCE AND LAW GRADUATES, FACULTIES WHICH INCIDENTALLY HAVE ACCORDING TO WIDE-SPREAD BELIEF BEEN HEAVILY PENETRATED BY THE RADICAL LEFT. THE DOCUMENTARY BELIEVED THAT IF VIOLENCE DOES OCCUR, IT WOULD BE MORE DIFFUSED THAN THE DISORDERS WHICH CHARACTERIZED THE LATE SIXTIES, WHICH IN THE FRG WERE RELATED TO THE WORLD-WIDE PATTERN OF STUDENT REVOLT. THIS IS A REASONABLE CONCLUSION. RECENT STUDENT UPHEAV-ALS HAVE BEEN SPARKED BY LOCAL OR DOMESTIC ISSUES (E.G., COST INCREASE OF LOCAL TRANSPORTATION, NUCLEAR PLANT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES).

4. AMONG THOSE CLAIMING TO SEE STORMCLOUDS ON THE HORIZON IS THE SPD ORGAN VORWAERTS WHICH QUOTED OBSERVERS OF STUDENT ACTIVITY SAYING THE SLIGHTEST SPARK WILL SET THE UNIVERSITIES ON FIRE. SPD MP MANFRED SCHMIDT, ONE OF MANY PARLIAMENTARIANS (REGARDLESS OF PARTY) CONCERNED ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY SCENE IS QUOTED AS SAYING "WE ARE SITTING ON A KEG OF GUNPOWDER AND THERE IS NO LACK OF PEOPLE AROUND WITH MATCHES READY TO IGNITE."

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 PRS-01 PA-01 CIAE-00 INR-07
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AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, DESPITE ALL THE VERBALIZING WHICH HAS BEEN GOING ON, IT DOES NOT APPEAR LIKELY THAT CAMPUS VIOLENCE WILL ERUPT THIS SUMMER. FOR ONE THING, FEDERAL, LAND, AND CITY GOVERNMENTS ARE MUCH MORE AWARE OF WHAT IS GOING ON. UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATIONS ARE DETERMINED NOT TO LET THINGS GET OUT OF HAND AND AND SEEM BETTER PREPARED TO COPE THAN THEY WERE A DECADE AGO. FOR EXAMPLE, SOME AGITATORS ARE "STUDENTS" WHO UNDER PRESENT RULES SPEND YEARS AT A UNIVERSITY WITHOUT TAKING EXAMINATIONS. THIS HAS CREATED A GROUP OF NOW MIDDLE-AGING VETERAN AGIT PROPS WHO DEVOTE MOST OF THEIR TIME TO POLITICS. TO COUNTER THIS, THERE IS A GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL TO LIMIT THE TIME IN WHICH STUDIES MUST BE COMPLETED. THIS IN ITSELF HAS CAUSED OUTCRY AMONG STUDENTS, AROUSED BY THE DE FACTO PROFESSIONAL AGITATORS.

6. PROSPECTS OF VIOLENCE ASIDE, THERE IS THE MATTER OF PERMEATION OF DECIDEDLY ULTRA-LEFT IDEOLOGY AT THE GYMNASIUM LEVEL AND AT SEVERAL UNIVERSITIES WHICH IS WORRYING. FOR EXAMPLE, AT "RED" MARBURG, A POLITICAL

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SCIENCE FINAL EXAM IS REPORTED TO HAVE INCLUDED AROUND 80 TOPICS TAKEN FROM MARX AND MARXIST HISTORICAL INTERPRETATION. EVEN THEOLOGY FACULTIES HAVE BECOME INFECTED, AS WITNESSED BY THEOLOGICALS AT SEVERAL FACULTIES WHO PUBLICLY SUPPORT THE ASSASSINATION SEVERAL MONTHS AGO OF THE FRG CHIEF PROSECUTOR, AS THE DESERVED END OF A "FASCIST OPPRESSOR." KLIEFORTH

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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